

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Docket No. 7970

Petition of Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. for) a
certificate of public good, pursuant to)
30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the construction)
of approximately 43 miles of new natural gas)
transmission pipeline in Chittenden and Addison)
Counties, approximately 5 miles of new)
distribution mainlines in Addison County,) together
with three new gate stations in Williston,)
New Haven and Middlebury, Vermont)

**CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION’S COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE AND
SCHEDULE FOR THE SECOND REMAND PROCEEDING
AND JOINING LYONS SECOND 60(b) MOTION**

Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) submits these comments in response to the Vermont Public Service Board (Board) Order of March 2, 2015 regarding the scope and schedule for the second remand proceeding to address the increase in the estimated capital costs for Phase 1 of the Addison Natural Gas Project (Project).

Conservation Law Foundation also joins the Second Rule 60(b) Motion submitted by Kristin Lyons on March 9, 2015.

Scope

Conservation Law Foundation reaffirms its previous comments that the scope of any remand should be broad enough to encompass review of all criteria that are affected by the significant increase in the estimated capital costs for the Project. In particular, the review should encompass the 248(a) criteria regarding whether the proposed project will “promote the general good of the State,” and the 248(b) criteria addressing specific Project impacts and benefits. The

significant cost increase affects whether the Project “will result in an economic benefit to the State and its residents; 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(4), and whether the Project will “have an undue adverse effect on ... the natural environment....” 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(5). The review should also encompass whether the project is “required to meet the need for present and future demand for service which could not otherwise be provided in a more cost effective manner through energy conservation programs and measures and energy-efficiency and load management measures” 30 V.S.A. § 248(b)(2).

Schedule

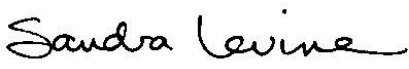
CLF does not have any specific comments on the proposed schedule presented by the Board in its March 2, 2015 Order. The supplemental prefiled testimony from VGS should include an update of discovery and other testimony addressing the above-referenced affected criteria that have changed as a result of the new cost information.

Lyons 60(b) Motion

CLF joins the Second 60(b) motion submitted by Kristin Lyons. As stated in that motion, the proceeding should be re-opened to allow a broad consideration of whether the Project should be approved. Particularly where VGS knew of significantly increased costs and failed to disclose that information in a timely manner, the Board should re-open the proceeding.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 9th day of March 2015.

CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION

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